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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Kuybyshev Oblast)
SUBJECT Munitions Factory in Kuybyshev

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1. The munitions factory lies on the left (east) bank of the Volga about 4 km upstream (northeast) of the city of Kuybyshev, directly south of a concrete bridge (3) over a deep gorge. Over this runs a doubletrack streetcar line which passes directly by the munitions plant and connects Kuybyshev with a suburb lying north of the gorge. About 2 km southeast of the factory is the Pyatiletka station on the main line from Kuybyshev to Krasnaya Glinka.
2. The grounds of the factory cover an area of about 400 by 300 meters and are surrounded by a 4-meter-high brick wall so that it is not possible to look in. At the corners of the wall are wooden watchtowers, which were occupied only during the war and have been empty since then, though they have not deteriorated. The factory has three entrances which are indicated on the sketch.
3. The factory was built in 1912 to 1914 and was then remarkably small in dimensions. During the First World War and after, it manufactured only artillery fuses. Between 1925 and 1930 the grounds were greatly enlarged and new concrete workshops were built. Since then, the factory has manufactured almost exclusively infantry ammunition.
4. In the factory the whole process of ammunition manufacture took place. Cartridge cases of brass and aluminum alloy were pressed and drawn, then the cartridges were cast, filled with explosive, and packed in the cases. There was also a department for the manufacture of packing boxes and cases, as well as a packing department. The kinds of ammunition were 7.62 mm caliber for rifles, machineguns, and pistols. According to workers, the monthly production was about 25 million rounds of infantry ammunition.
5. Production was almost fully automatic. The machinery of the factory was composed for the lesser part of old, German-built machines dating from the late 1920's and for the greater part of American machines delivered during the war. There are also many individual Soviet machines in operation.

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- 25X1 6. [redacted] copper from the Urals was delivered to the Pyatiletka station by rail and was transported to the factory by truck. The factory was supplied with explosives from an explosive factory in Chapayevsk, also delivered by rail. On the east side of the munitions factory are underground storerooms, in which the reserves of explosives are stored.
7. The factory is supplied with power and light from the city of Kuybyshev by a power station which was greatly enlarged in 1946. The supply of current is brought in by above-ground tension lines.
8. The factory also has its own power station with steam turbines in case of emergency.
9. On the factory grounds stand about 10 workshops and factory buildings, which were one or two stories high [redacted]
- 25X1 [redacted] During the war the factory suffered little damage. Shortly after the war, a fire broke out in the warehouse for finished ammunition, but only this warehouse was destroyed. In the ensuing prosecution, several leading employees and fire prevention officials were sentenced to long prison terms.
10. The separate workshops are connected with one another by a small spur line on which Diesel locomotives run. The forwarding of the finished ammunition takes place partly by truck to the Pyatiletka station, and partly directly to the individual munitions depots of the Kuybyshev military district, whose main source of supply is this factory.¹
11. The factory is completely militarized and is under a military administration which also supervises the above-mentioned explosive factory at Chapayevsk. The administration must be located in Kuybyshev [redacted]
- 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 [redacted]
12. In the factory there are employed about 4000 workers, of which two-thirds are women. They work in two shifts of eight to ten hours. The pay of the workers is relatively high as a result of bonuses for overfulfillment of plans. The 1952 plan was 114% fulfilled.
13. Great value is placed upon including in the personnel a high percentage of Party members and members of the Komsomol. This fact is taken into account in the filling of new posts. In hiring new workers and employees, it is necessary in each case to have the concurrence of the Party or Komsomol committee, or at least that of the trade union committee.
14. The factory is strictly guarded. The guards, however, cannot be seen from outside because the posts are along the inside wall of the factory. At each entrance there are two permanent turnkeys who inspect the passes of those who enter or leave. From time to time body searches are made on persons leaving the factory since it is known that materials, tools, etc. are taken by workers for their personal use.

Legend for Sketch

1. Factory area, 400 x 300 meters.
2. Artillery camp which does not belong to the factory.
3. Concrete bridge, about 50 meters long.
4. Orientation point: city cathedral of Kuybyshev which has a large dome and is about four kilometers from the ammunition factory.
5. Suburbs.

- 25X1 1. [redacted] Comment: The headquarters of the Volga Military District is located in Kuybyshev.

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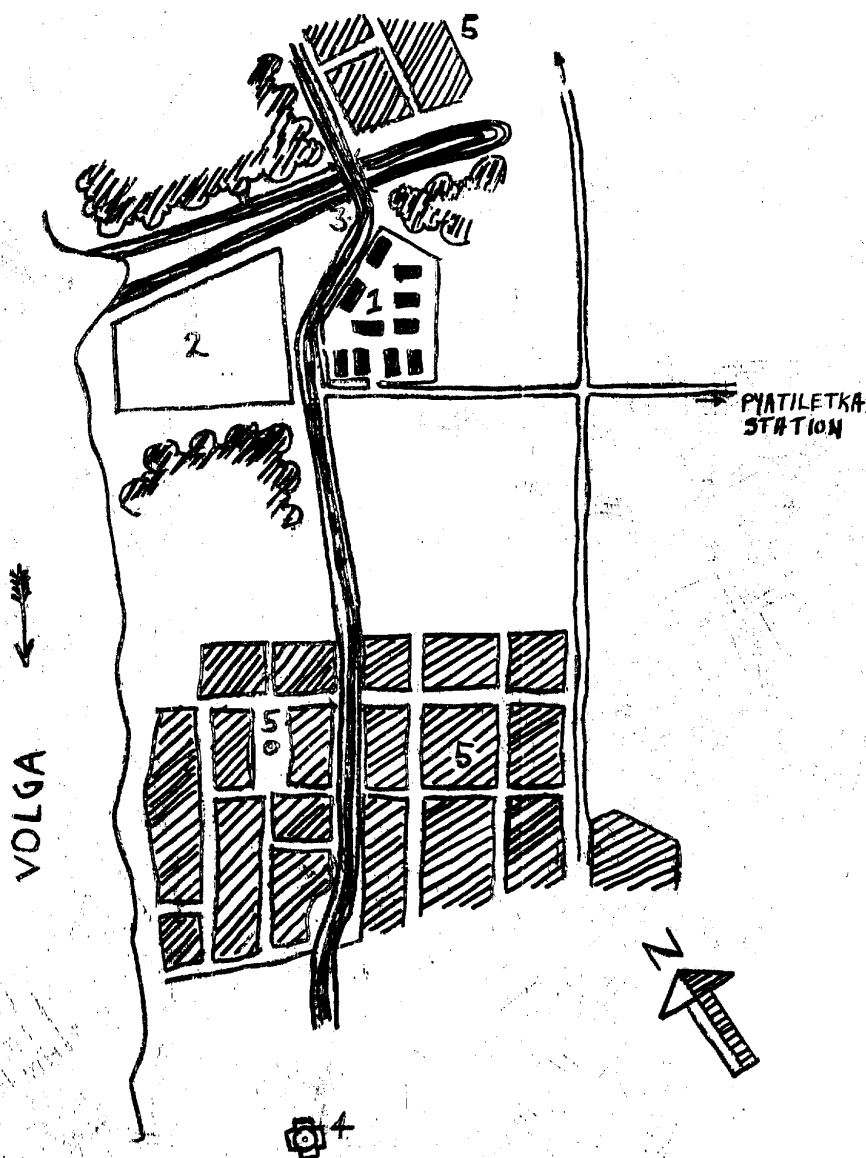
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City Plan of Kuybyshev



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